

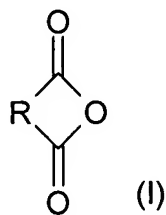
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) Process for preparing a coated metal sheet coil comprising the following steps:

- (1) decoiling of the coiled metal sheet;
- (2) coating the metal sheet with a curable composition comprising a/an (meth)acrylated oligomer which is the reaction product of a carboxyl functionalized polybutadiene comprising x equivalents of -COOH groups with a mixture of z equivalents of one or more polyepoxides and at least $(z - x)$ equivalents of at least one α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid with $z > x$;
- (3) curing the composition by irradiation; and
- (4) recoiling the coated metal sheet.

17. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein the carboxyl functionalized polybutadiene is the reaction product of a hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene with a cyclic anhydride corresponding to the formula (I):



wherein R represents arylene, cycloalkylene, alkylene or alkenylene group, optionally substituted by an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a -COOH group and/or another anhydride group.

18. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 17, wherein the cyclic anhydride corresponding to formula (I) is phthalic anhydride or dodecenylsuccinic anhydride.

19. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein z is greater than 2x.

20. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid is chosen from acrylic and methacrylic acid.

21. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein the polyepoxide is chosen from diglycidylethers of aromatic or aliphatic diols or cycloaliphatic diepoxides.

22. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 21, wherein the polyepoxide is chosen from diglycidyl ether of bisphenol-A, diglycidylether of poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), diglycidylether of polypropylene oxide and diglycidylether of butanediol.

23. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein the (meth)acrylated oligomer is prepared by adding the α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid to the carboxyl functionalized polybutadiene before or at the latest at the same time as the polyepoxide.

24. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 16, wherein the (meth)acrylated oligomer is obtained by the reaction of the carboxyl functionalized polybutadiene and the polyepoxide in the presence of at least one non reactive diluent chosen from mono- or polyfunctional (meth)acrylate monomers.

25. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 24, wherein the non reactive diluent is chosen from phenoxyethyl acrylate, isobornyl acrylate, n-butyl acryloyloxy ethyl carbamate and their mixtures.

26. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 16, wherein the curable composition comprises:

[[•]] from 8% to 50% by weight of said (meth)acrylated oligomer,

[[•]] from 0 to 65% by weight of non-reactive diluent,
[[•]] from 0 to 60% by weight of additional diluent chosen from copolymerizable ethylenically unsaturated monomers,
[[•]] from 0.01 to 60% by weight of (meth)acrylated polyepoxide,
[[•]] from 0.01 to 5% by weight of photoinitiator or chemical initiator, and
[[•]] from 0 to 20% by weight of adhesion promoter.

27. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 16, wherein the ~~curing~~ irradiation is done by electron beam or UV-radiation.